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THE AIR FORCE, AND THE MARINE CORPS

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Headquarters US Army Materiel
Development and Readiness Command
5001 Eisenhower Avenue
Alexandria, VA 22333
Headquarters Naval Material Command
Washington, DC 20360
Headquarters Air Force Logistics Command
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base OH 45433
Headquarters Air Force Systems Command
Andrews Air Force Base, DC 20334
Headquarters US Marine Corps
Washington, DC 20380

1 April 1981

Research, Development, and Logistics

AIRDROP SYSTEMS AND AIRCRAFT PROVISIONS FOR AIRDROP

Supplements to this regulation are prohibited. Send suggestions or changes required to this regulation to the appropriate Command OPR. Purpose: This regulation provides guidance and direction for all interservice activities related to the development and fielding of airdrop systems and aircraft provisions for airdrop and provides for the establishment and operation of the Joint Technical Airdrop Group.

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Distribution: (See p. 1-6.)

CHAPTER 1

GENERAL

1-1. SCOPE. This regulation applies to organizations within DARCOM, NMC, AFLC, and AFSC involved in the materiel acquisition process, from research to deployment, of airdrop systems and aircraft provisions for airdrop.

1-2. EXPLANATION OF TERMS.

a. Advisory Working Party. An organization, established at the request of the Group, whose member represents organizations not within DARCOM, NMC, AFLC, or AFSC. Studies performed relate to the mission of the Group, but fall outside its area of responsibility; e.g., airdrop operational requirements.

b. AFLC. Air Force Logistics Command.

c. AFSC. Air force Systems Command.

d. Alternate Member. An individual so designated to represent his or her Command.

e. Command. The headquarters and subordinate elements of any one of the Joint Logistics Commands; either DARCOM, NMC, AFLC, or AFSC.

f. Command Staff. The headquarters organization of any one of the Joint Logistics Commanders.

g. DARCOM. US Army Materiel Development and Readiness Command.

h. Invited Member. An individual representing an organization not within DARCOM, NMC, AFLC, or AFSC and, at the request of the Group, has been designated by his or her organization to be its representative.

i. JTAG. Joint Technical Airdrop Group.

j. NMC. Naval Material Command.

k. OPR. Office of Primary Responsibility. This is the Joint Commander's headquarters office having the greatest functional or primary responsibility.

l. Principal Member. An individual designated to represent his or her Command. Principal Members are highly qualified in their technical area and are of sufficient stature to speak and act responsibly and authoritatively.

m. Subgroup. An organization established by the Group for the purpose of studying a specific task or specific area.

n. USMC. US Marine Corps.

1-3. BACKGROUND. In June 1964, the Joint Logistics Commanders established the Joint Technical Coordinating Group for Aerial Delivery (JTCG/AD) for the purpose of providing an interface among agencies responsible for the aerial delivery mission. A charter was approved in November 1966 and since then the JTCG/AD has concerned itself primarily with the airdrop mission as other committees, agencies, ad hoc groups, etc. were devoted to addressing the air land mission on a joint Service basis. In June 1977, a new charter was approved which changed the name to the Joint Technical Coordinating Group for Airdrop (JTCG/AD) and which delineated specific development responsibilities for AFSC and DARCOM.

The JTCG/AD has been effective in promoting interservice awareness of the airdrop program, in precluding duplication of efforts, and in formulating joint Service programs. The administrative and coordinative mechanisms have become sufficiently developed by the Group and their continued use is established by this regulation; therefore, disestablishment of the Group is warranted.

1-4. RESPONSIBILITIES.

a. The Command OPR is responsible for appointing a Principal Member and at least one alternate member to the JTAG.

b. The JTAG will:

(1) Conduct interservice technical coordination during formulation and execution of the DOD Airdrop Program.

(2) Monitor the respective Service in-house and contract airdrop programs to prevent duplication of efforts.

(3) Promote joint development and testing programs.

(4) Provide operational commands and users of airdrop systems and techniques with jointly developed technical information to assist in the preparation of future requirements.

(5) Resolve problems by obtaining agreement between the R&D and logistics elements of the Services.

c. The subordinate elements of the Commands will:

(1) Execute airdrop programs according to the provisions of this regulation, the agreements of the JTAG, and within the division of responsibilities as specified in the appendix.

(2) Initiate coordination of new programs in the planning stages. For rapidly initiated programs, coordination should begin as soon as practical and no later than the first JTAG meeting following the initiation of the program.

d. Each Principal Member of the JTAG will:

(1) Actively participate in the Group activities.

(2) Represent his or her Command's interests as directed by the OPR.

e. Each alternate member of the JTAG will represent his or her command in the absence of the Principal Member and, at the request of the Principal Member, take part in group studies and tasks.

1-5. POLICY AND PROCEDURES.

a. Policy. (1) The JTAG will encourage and monitor the cooperation and coordination among the Services. (2) Efforts within this regulation are conducted jointly to:

(a) Eliminate unnecessary duplication of effort and achieve maximum standardization.

(b) Upgrade the military airdrop programs.

(c) Provide fast response to operational needs.

(d) Ensure compatibility of airdrop systems and aircraft equipment. (Reference Joint DARCOM/NMC/AFLC/AFSC Commanders Agreement on Theater Mobility, dated 3 December 1980)

(3) When joint efforts are not practicable, single service projects/tasks will be conducted with other interested Services involved to the maximum extent possible.

b. Procedures. The JTAG will:

(1) Conduct meetings at the call of the chairperson, normally triannually, to review the Services' airdrop research, development, engineering, and acquisition programs.

(2) Make agreements, or recommendations for higher headquarters approval, to eliminate interservice duplication and to assure participation of other interested Services. During reviews, identify candidates for joint efforts and negotiate responsibilities and major functions of the proposed participating services.

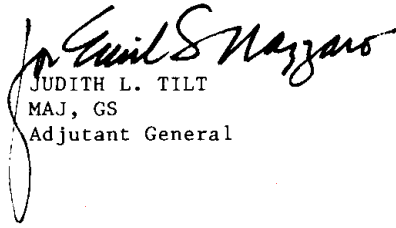
(3) Conduct reviews of proposed airdrop flight test programs to identify candidates for joint testing.

(4) Establish, as necessary, subgroups and advisory working parties.

(5) Alternate chairmanship between the Principal Members of DARCOM and AFSC on a biennial basis.

(6) Request participation of selected Invited Members for the purpose of gathering data and coordinating Group activities with interfacing organizations.

(7) Publish minutes of meetings and, upon OPR direction, an annual report. Distribute those documents to all Group participants and to the OPRs.



JUDITH L. TILT
MAJ, GS
Adjutant General

JOHN R. GUTHRIE
General, USA
Commanding
US Army Materiel Development
and Readiness Command

JAMES H. RIX, Colonel, USAF
Director of Administration

BRYCE POE, II, General, USAF
Commander
Air Force Logistics Command

JAMES L. WYATT, Jr., LtCol, USAF
Director of Administration

ROBERT T. MARSH, General, USAF
Commander
Air Force Systems Command

A. J. WHITTLE
Admiral, USN
Chief of Naval Material

H. A. HATCH
MAJOR GENERAL USMC
Deputy Chief of Staff for
Installations and Logistics

APPENDIXDIVISION OF RESPONSIBILITIESAir Force Responsibility with
Other Service Input

1. Aircraft Subsystems
 - 1 - Rail Systems
 - 2 - Extraction Parachute Release Mechanism
 - 3 - Winches
 - 4 - Anchor Cables
2. Overall Cargo Compartment Floor Design
3. CARP Procedures
4. Aircraft (on-board) Rigging Procedures
5. Aircraft Airdrop Kits
 - 1 - Tow Plates
 - 2 - Forward Restraint Barriers
 - 3 - Aft Release Gates
6. Restraint Criteria
7. Aircraft T.O. Procedures

*NOTE: Development efforts in these areas require active Air Force participation and coordination because of the critical safety of flight interfaces involved.

Army Responsibility with
Other Service Input

1. Recovery Parachutes
2. Energy Absorbing Equipment
3. Load Tie-down Equipment
4. Ground Disconnect Devices
5. Personnel Parachutes
6. Personnel Equipment
7. Rapid Derigging Equipment
8. Reefing Line Cutters
9. Risers/Slings
10. F.M. Procedures
- *11. Airdrop Technology Base (Research and Exploratory Development) (See note)
- *12. Platforms (See note)
- *13. Force Transfer Devices (See note)
- *14. Extraction Parachute/Lines (See note)
- *15. Cargo Containers (See note)
16. Static Lines
17. Altitude Sensors

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